

VOL. XVII.

## + J. R. RACE & CO., +



### Clothiers \* and \* Gents' \* Furnishers

Of Decatur, will for the next SIXTY DAYS  
make BIG REDUCTIONS on

Men's, Boys' and Children's Overcoats, Heavy  
Suits, Heavy Gloves, Underwear, Cardigan  
Jackets, Reefer Coats and Vests,  
Blue Flannel Shirts and all Heavy Goods.

We will make prices on any of the above  
articles that will surprise you.

A first-class Man's Overcoat for \$3 and \$4,  
and a good Boy's Overcoat for \$2.

We are making a Special Drive on Children's  
Suits. No Shoddy---all good, first-class,  
New and Stylish Suits.

### WEDDING AND PARTY SUITS.

We have just received a full line of Men's and Youths  
Fine Prince Albert and Cutaway Dress Suits, suitable  
for parties and weddings, at REMARKABLY  
LOW PRICES. Special Reductions in  
our Merchant Tailoring Department.

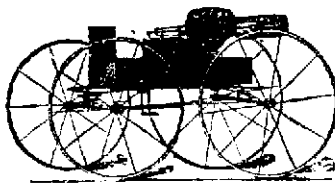
We are going to REDUCE OUR PRESENT STOCK.  
Therefore will make prices that you can afford  
to buy if you need anything in our line.

CALL AND GET PRICES.

## J. R. RACE & CO.,

129, 135 North Water Street.

## A. KRAMER,



MANUFACTURER OF  
Carriages, Buggies, Phaetons,  
SPRING WAGONS,  
Road Carts, Double and Single Cutters.

REPAIRING OF ALL KINDS  
Uses the Best Work and uses none but  
Good Material.

REFERENCE: My patrons in Marion  
county for thirty years past.

258 AND 260 EAST MAIN ST.

## GO TO J. S. HUGHES

Tin, Iron and Slate Roofing,  
Tin Gutting and Drain Pipe,  
Galvanized Iron Gutter and  
Drain Pipe.

MANUFACTURER OF  
Galvanized Iron Cornices and  
Metal Skylights.

ALL WORK WARRANTED.  
Estimates made on short notice.  
749 N. WATER STREET.  
April 4-11

DR. A. S. WALTZ,  
DENTIST.

Office over Barber & Baker's shoe store  
East Main street, Decatur, Ill.

A Card.  
In assuming the directorship of the  
Decatur Musical College, I am pleased to  
announce that there will be no change in  
the work. We guarantee first class in-  
struction in the following branches:  
Singing, organ, violin, voice culture, har-  
mony, guitar, banjo, mandolin, French,  
German and Italian, all at the lowest  
possible rates. I hope the people will be  
interested in the continued success of  
the college, and patronize it as liberally  
as heretofore. Pupils will be received at  
any time. For full information call at  
the college, corner Main and William  
streets, or address Olof Bull, Decatur,  
Illinois.

Cutlers and bob-sleds for sale at  
Spencer & Lehn's. an's. nov23d4w

### REASONS

Why Ayer's Sarsaparilla is  
preferable to any other for  
the cure of Blood Diseases.

Because no poisonous or deleterious  
ingredients enter into the composition  
of Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla contains only  
the purest and most effective remedial  
properties.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is prepared with  
extreme care, skill, and cleanliness.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is prescribed by  
leading physicians.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is for sale  
everywhere, and recommended by all  
first-class druggists.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is a medicine,  
and not a beverage in disguise.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla never fails to  
effect a cure, when persistently used,  
according to directions.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is a highly con-  
centrated extract, and therefore the  
most economical Blood Medicine in the  
market.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla has had a suc-  
cessful career of nearly half a century,  
and was never so popular as at present.

Thousands of testimonials are on  
file from those benefited by the use of

**Ayer's Sarsaparilla.**

PREPARED BY  
Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Price \$1, six bottles, \$5. Worth \$5 a bottle.

### GRANITE AND MARBLE.

W. H. GRINDOL,

At 288 E. Main St.

Keeps constantly on hand a large stock of  
SCOTCH AND AMERICAN GRANITE and  
MARBLE MONUMENTS, and a fine set of  
NEW DESIGNS to select from.

He will furnish you a First-Class Monu-  
ment for less money than you can get any  
where.

Building Stone a Specialty.  
mar23-d4w

### New Book Bindery

Blank Book Manufacturing,

127 S. Water St., Decatur.

Magazines and all kinds of books bound and  
repaired.

Telephone Boxes made to order.  
Names stamped in gold on books, pocket-  
books, toilet cases, etc.

Numbering tickets, checks, etc.

HERMAN SPIES, Proprietor.

Oct. 30-10m

John A. Brown.

AT LEX. AW.

and Master in Chancery for Marion county, Ill.

Office over Linn & Scruggs' dry goods store  
Entrance from court house stairway.

### Where the Papers Are Published.

Reading and reflecting on the wonder-  
ful development of certain special fea-  
tures of periodical literature, the subject  
in its entirety as related to this country  
is a wonder. Statistics on this topic are  
never dry. And here are some reliable  
ones. George T. Fowler & Co. have now  
for more than twenty years made reports  
on the actual issue of American news-  
papers and magazines. The figures of this  
firm are honest, thorough and to be  
relied upon. The periodical publications  
now issued in the United States and  
Canada are found to be divided as fol-  
lows: Daily, 1,312; tri-weekly, 50; semi-  
weekly, 184; weekly, 12,322; bi-weekly,  
67; semi-monthly, 230; monthly, 1,722;  
bi-monthly, 25; quarterly, 106; making  
a total of 16,410.

When credited to the states in which  
they are published the geographical dis-  
tribution of these periodicals is shown to  
be: New York, 1,636; Pennsylvania,  
1,169; Illinois, 1,157; Ohio, 949; Kansas,  
827; Louisiana, 827; Missouri, 827;  
Arkansas, 827; Nebraska, 827; Wisconsin,  
827; Texas, 827; California, 827; Minn-  
nesota, 827; Iowa, 827; Georgia, 827;  
Tennessee, 827; Kentucky, 827; Virginia,  
827; Colorado, 827; North Carolina, 827;  
Alabama, 827; Maryland, 827; Connecti-  
cut, 827; Florida, 827; Mississippi, 827;  
West Virginia, 827; Oregon, 827; South Carolina,  
827; Vermont, 827; District of Columbia,  
827; Rhode Island, 827; Delaware, 827;  
New Jersey, 827; Current Literature.

Editor Matthews' Prayer Book.

When the late Rev. Dr. Ingersoll died  
in 1838, the present writer was called on  
to report the funeral services. He was pre-  
sented to the account afterward occasion  
arose to make a direct quotation from  
the Book of Common Prayer, and, not  
finding the volume on the book shelves  
of the editorial office, he was forced to  
consult in Matthews' private office.

"Haven't you a prayer book of your  
own?" he asked. "Here, wait!" Taking  
a morocco bound copy from his desk, he  
handed it to me. It was a fine, old, worn  
book, and in memory of Dr. Ingersoll's  
funeral" added the date and his own  
name, and, handing it to the reporter,

said: "There's a present for you. My  
friend, let me say this: 'If you don't  
care to read it for the moral lessons it  
contains, study it for the sake of its pure  
English. There's no better use of the  
language for me than this.' The grateful  
recipient has studied that cherished book,  
from what motives no matter, save that  
he has searched its pages for typographi-  
cal and technical errors, and has found  
one! A closer proofreader, a better  
printer than Mr. Matthews never lived."  
—Buffalo Express.

Sand of Dazzling Whiteness.

Some sixty miles due north of El Paso  
lies a formation of almost pure gypsum,  
forming ranges of low, undulating hills,  
without a speck of a mixture, and of a  
dazzling whiteness. The gypsum occurs  
in the shape of a fine sand, and the dis-  
trict is some twenty-five miles long by  
six or seven miles wide. The rays of the  
sun are so strongly reflected from a bril-  
liant surface that traveling across the  
country is almost impossible in summer  
on account of the blinding glare and the  
great heat generated. This gypsum  
range is locally known as the "White  
Sands," and the White Oaks railroad  
skirts the eastern border. In one locality  
on the White Sands there is a natural  
basin like depression, into which a num-  
ber of neighboring gulches and valleys  
lead and concentrate, and this basin has  
for the first time within the memory of  
man, been filled by rains, and over 300  
acres have been covered several feet deep  
and transformed into a lake. At the  
bottom of this lake consists of the purest  
gypsum, which has been by the water  
cemented into a solid snow white mass,  
it cannot drain off except by the slow  
process of evaporation, and when the  
midday sun shines with its full force  
upon the landscape, the effect of the re-  
flection is dazzling and magnificent be-  
yond description. This is, perhaps, the  
most scenery anywhere in America.—  
El Paso Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Youthful Transgressors.

I believe that theologians, generally  
speaking, fix the weakening of the juve-  
nile conscience at the age of 7; and I  
think there is a holy man somewhere in  
Alban Butler's "Lives"—but I cannot re-  
member his name now—who says that  
before the age of seven a child is not  
drawn to the floor of hell. But for my  
part, in spite of these weighty au-  
thorities, I refuse to consider boys of 7  
or 11 as rational creatures, and I suppose  
that even the holy man above referred  
to would have admitted that if his  
"babes" had not happened to die at an  
opportune moment, they might by ju-  
dicious treatment have been reclaimed  
and turned into decent citizens. I look  
upon criminal boys of 11 in precisely the  
same light as I look upon pigs, and I  
blatantly attest that scratch. I will not  
bite or scratch me if I can help it.  
But I do not regard the biting or  
scratching from a gravo moral point of  
view.—London Truth.

The Suburbs of Melbourne.

One of the most pleasing features of  
Melbourne is the nearness of the nume-  
rous suburbs which surround the city.  
During the summer months in-  
tensely hot winds sweep over the city,  
spreading discomfort and distress. To es-  
cape from the debilitating influence of  
the heat, many of the city dwellers spend  
a half hour in the train and they are at  
the seashore. Many of the suburban  
places are called by very English names,  
such as Kew, Brighton, St. Kilda is  
Newport, and Newport is Melbourne.  
Melbourne and on the shores of Hobson  
bay. Numerous bathing establishments  
and hotels cater to the visitor's comfort.  
—New York Commercial Advertiser.

An Accommodating Judge.

Dan Langley, a Georgia moonshiner,  
was tried and convicted. At the trial he  
told the judge that he was to be married  
in a little over a month, and the judge  
therefore sentenced him to imprisonment  
for just one month. He was thus able to  
quit jail on a Monday and start for his  
home in Gordon county, where he was  
to be married on the following Wednes-  
day. He was so thankful for the light  
sentence that he promised to send the  
judge a gallon of the best moonshine  
whisky to be got.—Chicago Times.

Buckton's Arctia Salve.

The Best Salve in the world for cuts,  
bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever  
sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains,  
corns, and all skin eruptions, and pos-  
sibly every cure pile, or no pay required. It  
is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction,  
or your money refunded. Price, 25 cents  
per box. For sale by John A. Swearingen.

Still Another Lot of  
NEW CLOAKS,  
one-third less price than early  
Fall Prices,  
and 20 per cent. cheaper than  
was ever sold.

Linn & Scruggs.

### TWO FOREST MONARCHS.

RIVAL BUCKS FIGHT A TERRIBLE  
BATTLE TO THE DEATH.

Faithless Does Tenderly Care for the  
Wounds of Their Former Lord's Slayer.

A Hunter, Who Had Left His Rifle Be-  
hind, Forced to Be a Silent Spectator.

"I witnessed a singular sight not long  
since," said Gerald Whitney to an Ex-  
aminer man who had asked him some  
questions relative to stalking deer.

"There were several of us who had  
been back in the Cuyamaca deer hunt-  
ing for ten days and we had pretty good  
sport. Late one afternoon I wandered  
off from the camp alone, my thoughts  
causing me to stroll aimlessly through  
the scrub pine and down into the valley  
near a little stream where several days  
before had killed a fine buck and doe  
that had come to their usual watering  
place."

"The sun was low and the water was  
calm, and I saw a pair of antlers near  
me save my hunting knife, a valuable  
'Price,' which was made for my  
father some years since in this city.

"Near the stream I spoke of a moment ago  
there is a grassy plot of about three or  
four acres, and twenty or thirty large  
trees that would 'do Calaveras' proud  
grow in and around a little marsh and  
form a sort of natural rendezvous for the  
numbers of deer that inhabit certain sec-  
tions of Lower California.

A PRETTY GROUP INVITED.

"I came to this spot, and, stepping  
down, took a long draught of water.  
While I had my head bent down in the  
stream I caught the impatient stamp of  
feet, and heard the unmistakable  
rustle of the leaves as they sometimes give  
while eating. I cautiously withdrew be-  
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### Rescuing from Broken Ice.

Skating is one of the best of sports,  
and it is also one of the most hazardous.  
It is always best when the ponds and  
rivers are first frozen, but that is likeli-  
est the time when the ice is of unequal  
thickness and strength because of cur-  
rents and springs below. The weak  
places in the ice are called air holes;  
they constitute the chief dangers in  
skating and traveling until they are  
marked by boughs set in the ice.

Should an unsuspecting traveler fall  
into one of these open air cavities he will  
most assuredly be carried under the ice  
if the current is strong, his only chance,  
in the absence of assistance, being to  
swim against the current.

One afternoon, says the author of  
"Field and Forest Rambles," I saw a  
skater plump into one of these danger-  
ous places, when suddenly another, ob-  
serving the accident, pulled off his coat,  
and as he skated past the man in the  
water, tossed it toward him, who caught  
the sleeve and was dragged out by the  
impetus with which the other was going.

The feat was done so cleverly that I  
asked the performer if he had been ac-  
customed to save persons in that way,  
and he told me that he had pulled many  
men out of the air holes, and that pro-  
vided one is a good skater and can get  
near enough to the individual, there is  
no more ready and efficacious method.

On another occasion I observed a skat-  
er fall, when immediately another pulled  
off his coat and dashed toward the  
drowning man, who caught it, and was  
lying on the ice in a shorter time than I  
take to write down the fact.—Youth's  
Companion.

Impure Water.

The growing popular knowledge of in-  
visible impurities and the deepening  
impression upon the mind of the necessity  
of a pure water supply, have caused a  
demand for a simple and con-  
venient test. As yet there is no certain  
and reliable test by chemical analysis.  
The following tests are recommended:

"Fill a perfectly clean quart bottle half  
full of water, cork and shake it; remove  
the cork and see if any odor can be de-  
tected at the mouth of the bottle. If so,  
bottle again and put into a warm place for  
a few hours, or set into a pan of hot  
water for an hour. Shake, uncork and  
again test by smell. If an unpleasant or  
faint odor is perceptible the water  
requires more minute investigation.  
The second simple test is to evaporate  
a quart of water to dryness in a new  
tin pan or cup, and note the character of  
the residue, and what happens when it is  
strongly heated in a metal spoon. If the  
sediment left after evaporation is small,  
and on being burned in a metal spoon  
gives rise only to such an odor as char-  
acterizes the residue of water from  
burning vegetable matter, the water is  
not greatly contaminated with sewage.  
But if the sediment is in considerable  
quantity, dark in color and burning  
off the peculiar odor of burning hair  
or other animal matter, then the water  
is foul."—New York Graphic.

Steamboat Disasters.

There seems to be something remark-  
able about steamboat disasters. While  
they are few and far between, years of  
practical experience as an agent has  
taught me that they never occur singly.  
One occurs











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